[6th April 1953

SRI K. C. GOPALAN UNNI :—" As this is the only road in the village the area of which is about 300 square miles, will the Government consider the matter and take up the work immediately? "

THE HON. SRI N. RANGA REDDI :—" That is why, Sir, the work has been taken up."

SRI KUNHI MUHAMED SHAFEE :—" Sir, the other day, answering a question, the Hon. Minister was saying that famine conditions prevailed in Attapady area. Considering the famine prevailing there, will the Government expedite the work? "

THE HON. SRI N. RANGA REDDI :—" I have already answered the question, Sir."

SRI K. VINAYAKAM :—" Sir, what is the cost of construction of this road, and why is there so much delay in entrusting this work to a contractor? "

THE HON. SRI N. RANGA REDDI :—" This work is estimated to cost Rs. 10 lakhs. It is to be met from the State allocation from the Central Road Fund. The estimate is now complete."

SRI T. C. NARAYANA NAMBIAR :—" Hon. Ministers, especially the Finance Minister and other Ministers, are saying now and then that Malabar is a hill tract, and as a consequence thereof, the price of rice has increased so much for want of transport facilities. Will the Hon. Minister be pleased to note that investment on the construction of roads is only to enable the Government as well as the people to get rice at cheaper rates, and will the Hon. Minister give preference and prominence to the construction of these roads in this unfortunate hill tract? "

THE HON. SRI N. RANGA REDDI :—" I have already answered the question."

Relaxation of age-limit for Scheduled Castes and Backward Classes.

* 353 *Q.*—SRI M. VEERABHADRAM : Will the Hon. the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the State Government allow a relaxation of age-limit in the case of Government servants who are members of the Scheduled Castes and Backward Classes ; and

(*b*) if so, in which cases?

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" (*a*) & (*b*) Relaxation of age rule for first appointment to a service by direct recruitment or transfer is made in deserving cases. Members of Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Backward Classes are given special consideration."

SRI M. VEERABHADRAM :—" In view of the fact that most of the people are not getting benefit out of this concession, will the Government consider it desirable to extend the concession to

6th April 1953]

those people who have been sent out of the Province on Government business and hereby denied the chance of getting through the examination within the specified period?"

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" The supplementary question is put in a general form, but obviously it refers to some particular cases. If the person aggrieved brings his case to the particular attention of the Government, it will be looked into."

SRI Y. V. KRISHNA RAO :—" Sir, is this concession extended to Agency Tracts people who are backward?"

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" The question was about relaxation of age-limits already prescribed. The first concession is the prescription of different age-limits for Backward Classes and Scheduled Castes. Then the question of relaxation of this age-limit arises. Deserving cases get relaxation among these classes. If we go on extending the concession to every one, it would not be right. The public services should retain some quality after all."

SRI K. VINAYAKAM :—" As the rules stand at present, age relaxation is shown only to Backward Classes and Scheduled Castes for ministerial and clerical posts. Will the Government consider the desirability of relaxing the age-limits for the recruitment of backward and scheduled classes to the category of Deputy Collectors and Superintendents of Police and such other covenanted services?"

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" It depends on the number of people to whom relaxation is to be given. If the relaxation is to be given to a very large number of people, say to 60 per cent, it will amount to a change in the rule itself, and it need not be called relaxation."

SRI S. VEMIAH :—" Sir, will the Government in the case of war service candidates take their first appointment in the war service as the date of their first appointment?"

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" A separate question may be put. I am sure that something has already been done."

SRI V. V. RAMASAMI :—" Will the Government consider the cases of people who could not be promoted in the Revenue department for want of relaxation from age-limit?"

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" There is a distinction between first appointment and promotion. Apart from this, if we make so many concessions in favour of the older people, hon. Members should remember that the younger men will be hurt very badly."